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ABSTRACT

If the main cause of many students' disinclination to learn is attitude, it follows that the most important educational reform is the restoration of attitudes favorable to learning. This book and its companion workbook are intended to assist teachers in that goal. It helps teachers understand and appraise the negative attitudes that are all too common today, and it identifies positive alternative attitudes. The best way, and in many cases, the only way, to change attitudes is through discovery/problem-based learning that entails identifying harmful attitudes and directing students to apply strategies for analyzing beliefs before discussing and debating their findings in class. The book has four main divisions. Part 1, "Fundamental Concerns," traces the problem of attitudes to the impact of mass culture and presents an overall strategy for changing harmful attitudes. The other three divisions examine particular attitudes and explain how they can be changed. Part 2 addresses "Unhealthy Attitudes toward Self," and part 3 considers "Unhealthy Attitudes toward Thinking and Feeling." Part 4, "Unhealthy Attitudes toward Learning," is of particular interest to teachers. (Contains 55 references.) (SLD)

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